AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing an instant messaging communications channel for communication between objects executing within a managed code environment, the method comprising:

registering a first object and a second object as users of an instant messaging service computer;

receiving a request from a the first object executing within a managed code environment to transmit data to a the second object also executing within a managed code environment;

in response to the request, transmitting an instant message including the data to an the instant messaging server computer, the message being transmitting utilizing one of the MSNP protocol, the RVP protocol, or the SIP protocol;

receiving the instant message at the instant messaging server computer;

authenticating the first object and the second object as registered users of the instant messaging computer prior to, and forwarding the instant message to the second object; and

receiving the instant message, extracting the data from the instant message, and presenting the data to the second object.

2.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

generating response data at the second object;

receiving a request to transmit the response data from the second object to the first object;

in response to the request, transmitting an instant message including the response data to the instant messaging server computer, the message being transmitting utilizing one of the MSNP protocol, the RVP protocol, or the SIP protocol;

receiving the instant message at the instant messaging server computer, and forwarding the instant message to the first object; and

receiving the instant message, extracting the data from the instant message, and presenting the data to the first object.

3.   (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the first object is operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a first computer and wherein the second object is operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a second computer.

4.   (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the first and second computers are remotely located from one another.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first object and the second object are operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a first computer.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the instant message comprises a payload containing the data and wherein the payload comprises extensible markup language data formatted according to the simple object access protocol.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[7]] 1, wherein the instant messaging server computer is further operative to generate a log of messages transmitted between the first object and the second object.

9. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a computer, will cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1.

10. (Original) A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 1.

11.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing an instant messaging communications channel for communication between objects executing within a managed code environment, the system comprising:

an object executing within a managed code environment <u>registered as a user of an instant messaging server computer</u> operative to request the transmission of data to a second object<u>, wherein the second object is a registered user of the instant messaging computer</u>; and

a remoting system executing within the managed code environment operative to receive the request from the object and, in response to the request, to transmit an instant message including the data to ~~an~~ <u>the</u> instant messaging server computer, the message being transmitting utilizing one of the MSNP protocol, the RVP protocol, or the SIP protocol<u>, wherein the instant messaging server computer is configured to register the object and the second object and authenticate the object and the second object prior to accepting the instant message transmitted by the remoting system</u>.

12.   (Original) The system of Claim 11, further comprising an instant messaging server computer operative to receive the instant message from the remoting system and to forward the instant message to a remoting system executing within a managed code environment within which the second object is executing.

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Currently Amended) The system of Claim [[13]] 12, wherein the instant messaging server computer is further operative to generate a log of messages transmitted between the first object and the second object.

15.   (Original) The system of Claim 14, wherein the instant messaging server computer is further operative to receive an instant message containing response data from the second object, the instant message being transmitting utilizing one of the MSNP protocol, the RVP protocol, or the SIP protocol, and wherein the instant messaging server computer is further operative to forward the instant message to the remoting system executing within the managed code environment in which the first object is executing.

16.   (Original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the first object is operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a first computer and wherein the second object is operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a second computer.

17.   (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein the first and second computers are remotely located from one another.

18.   (Original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the first object and the second object are operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a first computer.

19.   (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a computer, will cause the computer to:

register a first object and a second object with an instant messaging service computer, wherein the first object is operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a first computer and wherein the second object is operative to execute within a managed code environment executing on a second computer;

establish, with the first object, a proxy representing a plurality of methods and properties available to the second object;

receive a request from the first object executing within a managed code environment to transmit data to the second object also executing within a managed code environment;

in response to the request, transmit an instant message including the data to the instant messaging server computer, the message being transmitting utilizing one of the MSNP protocol, the RVP protocol, or the SIP protocol, wherein the instant message comprises a payload containing the data and wherein the payload comprises extensible markup language data formatted according to the simple object access protocol;

receive the instant message at the instant messaging server computer;

authenticate the first object and the second object as being registered with the instant messaging computer; and

forward the instant message to the second object.